Rec Nov 29
Ans Dec 1

California Academy of Sciences.

POST OFFICE BOX, No. 2247.

San Francisco, Nov 22 1880

Dr George Englemann
St Louis
Mo

My Dear Sir

I send you by this mail a Section of the Stem of Lepidospyne gigantea Kellogg. Collected by me in 1870 on an islet in Cuyler Harbor, San Miguel Island. The specimen sent you is one half of the piece collected at the time and is somewhat above the medium size tho' by no means maximum. It has of course shrunken much in drying. At the time I was on the Islet the plant was in full bloom covering an area of about 6 or 7 rods square and the aroma yielded by them was similar to that of honey. This was the only plant of note growing at that time on the plateau, which is the top of the Islet, and a favorite resort for marine birds of various kinds

where they have been little disturbed for years
Of course a large amount Guano has accumulated, which forms almost the only soil. On this the Leptosyne grows to from 3 to 4 feet high, and at the date of my visit was the most beautiful sight I ever beheld in any one Species of the Pacific Coast Compositae. So much for the L sejanea

Deeming that a section of it might be of interest. I beg to do now what I intended to have done before your departure. viz donate it to your private collection.

With sincere regards

W G W Harford

Missouri Botanical Garden
George Engelmann Papers

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